

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

In the first line of the specification, please replace the paragraph beginning at page 10, line 11 with the following amended paragraph:

There are preferred first of all those DNA sequences which code for such a protein having an apparent molecular weight of about 55 kD, whereby the sequence given in FIG. 1 is especially preferred, and sequences which code for non-soluble as well as soluble fragments of such proteins. A DNA sequence which codes, for example, for such a non-soluble protein fragment extends from nucleotide -185 to 1122 of the sequence given in FIG. 1. DNA sequences which code for soluble protein fragments are, for example, those which extend from nucleotide -185 to 633 or from nucleotide -14 to 633 of the sequence given in FIG. 1. There are also preferred DNA sequences which code for a protein of about 75/65 kD, whereby those which contain the partial cDNA sequences shown in FIG. 4 are preferred. Especially preferred DNA sequences in this case are the sequences of the open reading frame of nucleotide 2 to 1,177. The peptides IIA, IIC, IIE, IIF, IIG and IIH are coded by the partial cDNA sequence in FIG. 4, whereby the insignificant deviations in the experimentally determined amino acid sequences are based on the cDNA-derived sequence with highest probability from the limited resolution of the gas phase sequencing. DNA sequences which code for insoluble (deposited on October 17, 2006 with the American Type Culture Collection under Accession No. PTA 7942) as well as soluble fractions of TNF-binding proteins having an apparent molecular weight of 65 kD/75 kD are also preferred. DNA sequences for such soluble fragments can be determined on the basis of the amino acid sequences derived from the nucleic acid sequences coding for such non-soluble TNF-BP.